4/10/72

Dear James,

Today I got a letter from Stoner in which he refused to give me what you know I expected and know I have expected for more than a year now. His timing interests me.

About a month ago, he told Jerry he was afraid I'd use anything against him. I told Jerry this is not the case, that I have no interest in him, that if he leaves me alone, I leave him alone, and that the old business was started not by me but by Field. Jerry has since told me that by accident he learned this for himself, having found the really nasty thing Field did to Bud and me, long, long ago.

I also wrote Stoner and gave him my word on this.

Now he waits until he knows I can't write you in time to influence you, which I wouldn't do in any event, and then and not until then writes me. The earliest I could have gotten his letter was today. Jerry had told me Stoner was going there today or tomorrow. If I understood Jerry's letter correctly, without Jerry this time.

I will not ask you or Stoner for this again. I've too much that I can't get to doing that has some prospect of doing me some good to fight for what can help you. It sure as hell can't help me.

His letter reached mem unsealed.

I have written and told him I regard the entire matter as at best unwise.

Meanwhile, I have no choice but to give Bud a copy. If you want it, Bud can bring it to you when he is there again. In Stoner's interest, I'd best not mail it.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg